

Appln. No. 09/594,875
Amendment dated July 18, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The March 23, 2006 Office Action and the Examiner's comments have been carefully considered. In response, claims are amended, and remarks are set forth below in a sincere effort to place the present application in form for allowance. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter is added.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner's indication that claim 10 is allowed is acknowledged and appreciated.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

In the Office Action, claim 5 is objected to because of certain informalities. In response, claim 5 is amended in a sincere effort to overcome the objection thereto.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

In the Office Action claim 5 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over USP 6,535,243 (Tullis) in view of USP 6,438,619 (Coman). Claim 6 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a)

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as being unpatentable over Tullis in view of Coman, and further in view of USP 6,262,767 (Wakui). Claims 8 and 14-17 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over USP 6,392,697 (Tanaka et al.) in view of Coman. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka et al. in view of Coman, and further in view of USP 5,367,518 (Ishida).

In response, claims 5, 6, 8, 9, 14 and 16 are amended to more clearly define the present claimed invention over the cited references. Claims 15 and 17 are amended to place the claims in better form for allowance.

In the electronic camera and system defined by claims 5, 14 and 16, when a communication part (communication unit in claim 16) identifies a master unit, an imaging part (storage unit in claim 16) having a camera function is automatically activated which transmits an untransmitted image from the electronic camera to the master unit. As a result, an untransmitted image is transmitted to a recording apparatus of the master unit without the user's intervention, time and effort. The device also reduces energy consumption, as the imaging part is not activated when it is proximate a base station other than that of the master unit.

The cited references USP 6,535,243 (Tullis), USP 6,438,619 (Coman), USP 6,262,767 (Wakui), USP 6,392,697 (Tanaka et al.),

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and USP 5,367,618 (Ishida) do not disclose, teach or suggest activating the imaging part (imaging part for storing an image) when receiving base station identification information (claim 5, lines 20-22), or an identification code of the base station (claim 14, lines 15-19), or when a specified communication unit has been found (claim 16, lines 8-12) as now recited in claims 5, 14 and 16.

None of the other references of record close the gap between the present claimed invention as defined by independent claims 5, 14 and 16 and Tullis, Coman, Wakui, Tanaka et al. and Ishida when taken either alone or in combination. Therefore, independent claims 5, 14 and 16, and claims 6, 8, 9, 15 and 17 which are either directly or indirectly dependent on claims 5, 14 and 16, are patentable over the cited references under 35 USC 102 as well as 35 USC 103.

* * * * *

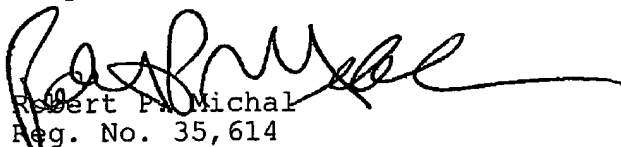
Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

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If the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to point out where there is support for a contrary view.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,


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Encl.: Petition for Extension of Time